

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 EUR-12 /117 W

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R 301830Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4560

UNCLAS MEXICO 5560

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG EALR MX

SUBJECT: PETROLEOS MEXICANOS FACILITIES IN THE SOUTHERN ZONE.

1. PETOFF RECEIVED FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM EMBASSY OFFICER WHO RECENTLY TRAVELED TO REFORMA AREA AND VISITED MOST OF THE PEMEX FACILITIES IN THE SOUTHERN ZONE. DATA WAS FREELY GIVEN BY PEMEX ENGINEERS DURING TOURS OF VARIOUS INSTALLATIONS.

2. PEMEX IS CONSTRUCTING A 36-INCH CRUDE PIPELINE FROM PAJARITOS, VER., TO POZA RICA, VER. PIPELINE WILL RELIEVE CONGESTION IN PAJARITOS TERMINAL, WHICH CAN ONLY HANDLE SMALLER TANKERS, 40-50,000 DWT. LINE WILL INCREASE PUMPING CAPABILITIES OF REFORMA FIELDS AS THESE ARE MORE FULLY DEVSLOPED AND WILL SUPPLY CRUDE TO NEW REFINERIES OR FOR EXPORT.

3. CRUDE IS BEING SHIPPED FROM COATZACOALCOS, VER., TO CUBA, COLUMBIA, BRAZIL, AND OTHER SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES. CURRENT EXPORTS ARE ABOUT 140-150,000 BBLs /DAY 70 PERCENT TO THE U.S. EARLIER THIS YEAR, AN UNNAMED U.S. COMPANY PURCHASED CRUDE IN COATZACOALCOS; IT WAS THEN SENT TO CUBA IN A RUSSIAN TANKER. SHIPMENTS TO ISRAEL WERE NOT REPEAT NOT MENTIONED.

4. PAJARITOS ETHYLENE PLANT NO.2 HAS BEEN COMPLETED.

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IT HAS A CAPACITY OF 182,000 MT

PER YEAR.

5. COSOLEACAQUE AMMONIA PLANT WILL INCREASE ITS CAPACITY TO 5500 MT/DAY BY THE END OF 1976, MAKING IT THE WORLD'S LARGEST SINGLE PLANT.

6. PEMEX HAS MADE SOME PROMISING GAS FINDS NEAR CORDOBA, VER. MORE DRILLING IS UNDERWAY.

7. PEMEX IS CURRENTLY SWEETENING 130 MILLION CFD OF GAS AT CACTUS AND WILL SHORTLY BE ABLE TO HANDLE 300 MILLION. PRESENT PRODUCTION IS 600 MILLION; THE EXCESS IS FLARED. WHEN PLANTS 4, 5 AND 6 ARE COMPLETED SOMETIME IN 1977, CAPACITY WILL BE ONE BILLION CFD. TWO ADDITIONAL SITES HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED FOR SWEETENING PLANTS, BUT NO CONSTRUCTION PLANS MADE AS YET.

8. SULPHUR PRODUCTION AT CACTUS IS 60 MT/DAY, TWO-THIRDS OF CAPACITY. SULPHUR 99.9 PERCENT PURE, IS SOLD BY AZUFREIRA PANAMERICANA TO JAPAN, CUBA AND BRAZIL.

9. IN LATE 1975 OR EARLY 1976, TWO CUBAN TECHNICIANS, ONE FEMALE, VISITED THE SOUTHERN ZONE. BOTH OF THEM CREATED A VERY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION WITH THEIR HOSTS. THEY WERE PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN PEMEX'S LABOR AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS.

10. TWO ARMY BATTALIONS PROVIDE SECURITY FOR PEMEX FACILITIES, ONE IN COATZACOALCOS AND ONE IN VILLA HERMOSA, TABASCO. CAMPESINOS IN THE AREA COMPLAIN, WITH A GOOD DEAL OF JUSTIFICATION, THAT PEMEX DOES CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO THEIR FARMS BUT OFFERS ONLY LIMITED COMPENSATION AFTER PROTRACTED DELAYS. HIGH SALARIES PAID THROUGHOUT PEMEX ALSO CAUSE DISCONTENT SINCE THEY INFLATE LOCAL PRICES.  
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